

Dear Commissioners:

Stop hidden phone fees so I can truly compare prices of phone services. I support the petition filed by the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates and endorsed by other consumer advocacy organizations. CG Docket No. 04-208, Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Truth-In-Billing and Billing Format, is long overdue.

Phone bills should be truthful and easy to understand. Because people on tight budgets sign up for phone contracts, believing they will pay a certain amount each month. But then their first bill comes and you realize that they owe between \$10.00 and \$15.00 more than what you had planned, and can afford. To some it's no big deal, but to most it's feels like you've been made a fool out of. And to most people I know that difference is a budget buster. When you sign up for a contract with a phone company you should be able to trust that if they say 39.99 a month it means 39.99 a month. Not 50.00 or 55.00 These hidden fees are wrong and totally unexceptable! Please put a stop to the hidden extra cost, a phone is something everyone needs nowadays, please help make it more affordable to the poor and middle class. That seem to be more then ever living paycheck to paycheck. Thank you for your time and consideration Respectfully yours Constance Woerner.

Because this practice is tolerated by the FCC, long distance and wireless phone companies are able to hide the true cost of service. These add-ons make the advertised price of service significantly less than the amount of the check I have to write each month to pay the bill. Competition will not work if consumers cannot accurately compare prices when shopping for service.

Many states are stepping up to address this problem. They should be allowed to proceed. However, the FCC shouldn't shirk its responsibility, nor limit states from doing more.

The FCC should immediately grant the NASUCA petition to investigate billing practices, and prohibit phone and wireless companies from imposing separate monthly fees, line items or surcharges unless expressly mandated by law or the charge is expressly authorized by a governmental authority.